News release

The difference a year makes

17 March 2006

Cold conditions so far this March are in stark contrast to the warm weather many places across the UK experienced this time last year.

The first half of March 2006 has seen temperatures below average across the entire UK, with daytime values only reaching 3 or 4 °C in places and frequent overnight frosts.

Last year temperatures were considerably higher, with daytime highs in the mid to upper teens. The highest temperatures reported around Britain this time last year were:

- London 20 °C on the 18th;
- Trawscoed, Ceredigion with 21 °C (70 °F) on the 19th;
- Valley, Anglesey, 20 °C on the 20th;
- Guernsey 17 °C on the 21st;
- Edinburgh and Aultbea with 17 °C on the 22nd.

Met Office forecasters are expecting temperatures to remain generally below average over the next few days with a continued risk of frost at night.

Latest forecast for the UK

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